

Our Reference: PAR-115-C.

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Serial Number: Filing Date: Examiner/Art Group Unit: Allan McCarty 09/649,473 August 28, 2000 M. Graham/3711 BILLIARD CUE

COMMUNICATION

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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Title:

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir Entry of this communication in the above-identified application is respectfully requested. In the claims: 1 1. (Three-Times Amended) A billiard cue comprising: 2 a shaft having a wall with an outer surface and a tip end and an 3 opposed end, a hollow, void bore extending from the tip end for at least a predetermined distance along the length of the shaft toward the opposed end and กเ 5 terminating in an end located in proximity with the tip end of the shaft, the bore 6 reducing the mass of the tip end to minimize cue ball deflection on impact with the 7 cue. 12 (Amended) The billiard cue of claim 13 further comprising: D 2 2 a lightweight, non-structural material disposed in at least a portion of 3 the bore. 1 13. (Amended) A billiard cue comprising: 2 a shaft having a wall with an outer surface and a tip end and an 3 opposed end, a hollow bore extending from the tip end for at least a predetermined

distance along the length of the shaft toward the opposed end to reduce the mass of the tip end to minimize cue ball deflection on impact with the cue, the bore devoid of